

Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2006

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-2, 12-13, and 21 have been amended. Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications.

The allowance of claims 8-11 and 17-20 is gratefully acknowledged.

The specification stands objected to for new matter. The April 20, 2006 did not make any amendment to the specification; only the claims were amended, and no new matter was added. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the specification is improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 2 and 13 stand objected to for informalities and have been amended to address the concerns raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, the claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 2-5 and 13-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Support for the limitation can be found in the specification at least at page 9, ln. 23-25 and page 13, ln. 16-17. No new matter was added to the disclosure with the April 20, 2006 amendments to claims 2 and 13. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is grammatical in nature, and should rather be an objection to the claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of these claims be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

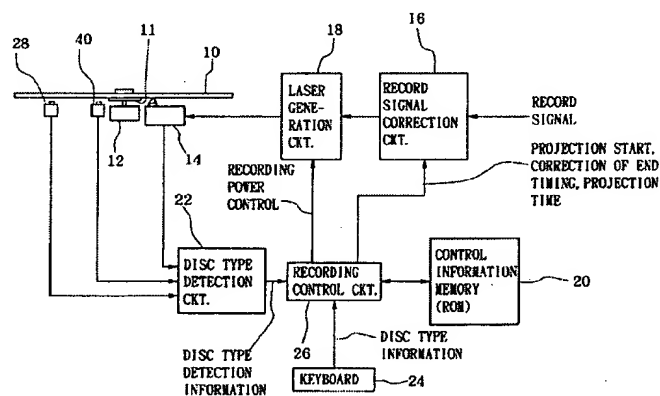
Claims 1-7, 12-16, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakajo (US 5,502,702). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Claims 1 and 21 recite, *inter alia*, “providing a recording and reading device that includes a first controller and ... an information processing apparatus that includes a second controller ..., wherein said providing step includes a step of providing said second controller separate from said first controller” (emphasis added). Claim 12 recites similar limitations for a computer-readable recording medium recorded with program code. Nakajo does not disclose these limitations.

To the contrary, Nakajo discloses only a single recording control circuit 26. Nakajo FIG. 1 (reproduced below). The Office Action indicates at page 8 that “element 26 [of Nakajo] is read to correspond to both the claimed ‘first controller’ and ‘second controller.’” Applicant respectfully submits that Nakajo does not disclose, teach, or suggest providing said second controller separate from said first controller as recited in claims 1, 12, and 21.

Nakajo FIG. 1



Since Nakajo does not disclose all the limitations of claims 1, 12, and 21, claims 1, 12, and 21 are not anticipated by Nakajo. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are patentable at least for the reasons mentioned above. Claims 13-16 depend from claim 12 and are patentable at least for the reasons mentioned above. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-7, 12-16, and 21 be withdrawn.

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In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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